

TEST KITS - GENERAL INFORMATION:

The State Laboratory Institute supplies mailing containers to physicians, hospital laboratories, clinics and boards of health throughout the Commonwealth **for the purpose of submitting samples to the SLI**. These containers are the property of the MDPH/SLI and should not be used for purposes other than shipping specimens to the SLI. The SLI does not supply blood collection tubes for use in the collection of blood samples for serological testing. All mailing containers supplied by the SLI meet U.S. Postal Service (USPS) and Department of Transportation (DOT) regulations. The SLI supplies only triple container kits because specimens usually must be packed in this manner with sufficient absorbent material enclosed to absorb the entire volume of liquids. Page 98 of this manual contains packing instructions for local surface transport of clinical diagnostic specimens and page 99 contains instructions for local surface transport of infectious substances. Each procedure contains specific directions on correct packaging, marking, labeling and shipping of specimens for transport by courier service (DOT) or the United States Postal Service (USPS). If the sample you are sending to the SLI is for the purpose of confirming an already identified pathogen, ship the specimen as an infectious substance. If your package contains an infectious substance and is going to be transported on an airplane, you must follow International Air Transport Association Regulations (IATA). See the next section for specific carrier instructions.

The following guidelines may help to avoid problems associated with sample collection and submission:

- Please note the sample and volume, the correct requisition form required, the sample container, the sample test kit and the shipping requirements suggested in each test profile for the safe and expeditious transport of your samples to the SLI.
- It is the responsibility of the provider to submit good quality samples for analysis.
- All samples submitted for analysis should be properly labeled for identification. The name on the primary, leakproof, sterile container (the sample collection tube or vial) and the name on the laboratory requisition form must be the same.
- A completed requisition form containing necessary and pertinent information must accompany each specimen submitted.
- Place the requisition form between the secondary and outer container. Do not attach the sample to the requisition or wrap the requisition form around the sample.
- Specimens should be collected at the appropriate times noted in the test profile. This is important for serological testing.
- Follow instructions for temperature control. Maintain cool temperatures where noted by using cold packs. Do not expose samples to extreme temperatures.
- Do not hold onto specimens for long periods. Transport or ship the samples to the laboratory as early as possible. Avoid mailing specimens on weekends or holidays.
- Make sure the correct laboratory name is printed on the return address label. Please cross out any laboratory name that does not apply.

The following is a list of sample test kits, as noted in the test profiles, available from the SLI. The test kit along with the amount of kits per case is noted. Please call or fax an order using the appropriate number. To obtain environmental test kits, available for a fee, please call the laboratory listed for instruction.

TEST KITS:

Below is a listing of sample test kits and materials available for the purpose of mailing samples to the State Laboratory Institute:

Sample Test Kit:	Per Case	Laboratory	Phone # 617	Fax # 617	Fee
Chlamydia LCX	12 kits	Bacteriology Laboratory	983-6600	983-6618	None
Enteric	6 kits	Bacteriology Laboratory	983-6640	983-6618	None
HCV Multiple Courier	12 kits	HIV Laboratory	983-6390	983-6363	None
HCV Multiple Mailing	9 kits	HIV Laboratory	983-6390	983-6363	None
HCV Single Mailing	24 kits	HIV Laboratory	983-6390	983-6363	None
HIV Multiple Courier	12 kits	HIV Laboratory	983-6390	983-6908	None
HIV Multiple Mailing	9 kits	HIV Laboratory	983-6390	983-6908	None
HIV Single Courier	24 kits	HIV Laboratory	983-6390	983-6908	None
HIV Single Mailing	24 kits	HIV Laboratory	983-6390	983-6908	None
Legionella Transport	4 kits	Bacteriology Reference Lab	983-6640	983-6618	None
Pertussis Culture	Each	Bacteriology Reference Lab	983-6640	983-6618	None
Pertussis Serology	6 kits	Bacteriology Laboratory	983-6640	983-6618	None
Subculture / Infectious Substance	6 kits	Bacteriology Laboratory	983-6640	983-6618	None
Syphilis Serology Multiple Courier	12 kits	Bacteriology Laboratory	983-6640	983-6618	None
Syphilis Serology Multiple Mailing	9 kits	Bacteriology Laboratory	983-6640	983-6618	None
Syphilis Serology Single Courier	24 kits	Bacteriology Laboratory	983-6640	983-6618	None
Syphilis Serology Single Mailing	24 kits	Bacteriology Laboratory	983-6640	983-6618	None
TB Culture Courier	25 kits	Mycobacteriology Lab	983-6358	983-6399	None
TB Culture Mailing	16 kits	Mycobacteriology Lab	983-6358	983-6399	None
Throat Culture	Each	Bacteriology Laboratory	983-6600	983-6618	None
Virus Transport Medium - Influenza	Each	Epidemiology & Immunization Division	983-6848	983-6840	None
Virus Transport Medium	Each	Virus Isolation Laboratory	983-6382	983-6363	None
Virus Serology	9 kits	Virus Serology Laboratory	983-6396	983-6363	None
West Nile Virus, Avian Supplied to BOH Agents	5 kits	Vector-Borne Disease Lab	983-6391	983-6363	None
Forms Available:					
HIV Barcodes		HIV Laboratory	983-6390	983-6363	None
Premarital Forms		STD Control	983-6940	983-6962	None
Syphilis Serology Forms Provided to Select Clinics Only		STD Laboratory	983-6614	983-6618	None
Lead, Order Form for Environmental Kits		Analytical Chemistry	983-6654	983-6662	None
Lead, Paint Worksheet		Analytical Chemistry	983-6654	983-6662	None
Lead, Soil Worksheet		Analytical Chemistry	983-6654	983-6662	None
Blood Lead Screening Supplies:					
Lead, Microcuvette Capillary Collection Tubes		Childhood Lead Screening	983-6665	983-6677	None
Lead, Blood Requisition Form		Childhood Lead Screening	983-6665	983-6677	None
Mailers: Boxes		Childhood Lead Screening	983-6665	983-6677	None
Mailers: Padded Envelopes		Childhood Lead Screening	983-6665	983-6677	None
Environmental Test Kits:					
Lead, Dust Wipes	5/kit	Analytical Chemistry	983-6654	983-6662	\$60.00 / Kit
Lead, Water	3/kit	Analytical Chemistry	983-6654	983-6662	\$42.50 / Kit
Lead, Sodium Sulfide (Provided to State Licensed Lead Inspectors and Code Enforcement Agents Only).	Each	Analytical Chemistry	983-6654	983-6662	\$12.50 / Kit